

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The tensioning system as set forth in claim 17, wherein a 1, characterised in that the tensioning ~~tensioning cable~~ means is guided on both sides of the telescopic mast portion to be braced and biased.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The tensioning system as set forth in claim 17, wherein said tensioning cable extends along and creates a pressure bias in an upper cross sectional portion of the mast, further comprising at least a second tensioning cable extending along and creating a pressure bias in a 1, characterised in that, when the lower cross sectional portion ~~run~~ of the mast is braced and biased, the tensioning means is guided to the upper portion of the mast by a tensile unit or winch provided on the crane superstructure.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The tensioning system as set forth in claim 7 wherein at least 1, characterised in that two of said second tensioning cables means are provided for the lower cross sectional portion ~~run~~ of the mast, at least one such second tensioning cable on each side of the mast.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The tensioning system as set forth in claim 17, further comprising 1, characterised in that, if an auxiliary crane tip (is provided, on the end of the telescoping mast, wherein said the tensioning cable extends means is also guided, at least in sections, along or over said auxiliary crane tip.

12. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The A tensioning system for a mobile telescopic crane as in claim 29, comprising a tensioning device for each said tensioning cable, means tensile units or winches and tensioning means for bracing the telescopic mast, in particular comprising a said tensioning means guide as set forth in claim 1, characterised in that said tensile units or winches are devices being arranged on the crane superstructure on opposite sides of the luffing plane and at a distance from the level luffing plane of the telescopic mast of the crane, such that whereby the tensioning cables means (can absorb a substantial proportion of the loads having components perpendicular to the level luffing plane.

13. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The tensioning system as set forth in claim 12, characterised in that wherein the tensioning cables extend along an upper cross sectional portion of the mast means tensile units or winches for bracing the upper cross sectional portion, and said tensioning devices comprise winches run of the mast are arranged behind the point where the mast joint of joins the crane superstructure.

14. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A tensioning system for a mobile telescopic crane, comprising tensioning means winches and tensioning means for bracing the telescopic mast, in particular comprising a tensioning means guide as set forth in claim 13 1, and/or a tensile unit or winch arrangement as set forth in claim 12 or 13, characterised in that said tensioning means tensile units or wherein said winches are movably mounted arranged on the crane superstructure, such that they can shift.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (New)

A tensioning system for a mobile telescopic crane having a telescopic mast, comprising:
a tensioning cable anchored at a first point adjacent a lower portion of the telescopic mast, said tensioning cable extending along said mast substantially parallel to the axis thereof to a joining point associated with an extended jib section of the telescopic mast;
said tensioning cable further extending from said joining point to a second point; and
a tensioning device for tensioning said cable throughout its length from said first point to said second point to thereby create a pressure bias within said mast between said first point and said joining point.

Claim 18 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said joining point comprises a roller associated with an extended jib section, and said cable extending from said first point runs over said roller and extends to said second point.

Claim 19 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said tensioning device comprises a weight for tensioning said cable.

Claim 20 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 19, wherein said weight is positioned with respect to the telescopic mast to serve also as a counterweight for said telescopic crane.

Claim 21 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said tensioning device is a pneumatic or hydraulic device.

Claim 22 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, further comprising a winch for taking up and paying out said tensioning cable.

Claim 23 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 19, further comprising a winch for taking up and paying out said tensioning cable, said winch comprising part of said weight for tensioning said cable.

Claim 24 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said second point is spaced above the telescopic mast.

Claim 25 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 24, wherein said second point is spaced above the telescopic mast by a support that is pivotally attached to a portion of the superstructure of the crane.

Claim 26 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, comprising a roller associated with said second point, said cable extending over said roller to said tensioning device.

Claim 27 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said first point is internal of said telescopic mast, said cable extending internally of the telescopic mast between said first point and said joining point.

Claim 28 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said first point is external of said telescopic mast, said cable extending externally of the mast between said first point and said joining point.

Claim 29 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein at least two tensioning cables are provided, at least one tensioning cable to each side of the telescopic mast.

Claim 30 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said first point is provided on the lowermost extensible section of the telescopic mast.

Claim 31 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 17, wherein said first point is provided on a base portion of the mast.

Claim 32 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 24, wherein said cable extending between said joining point and said second point serves to stabilize the mast.

Claim 33 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 29, wherein said cables, each extending between said joining point and said second point, serve to stabilize the mast.

Claim 34 (New and Withdrawn)

A tensioning system as in claim 12, wherein each said tensioning device comprises a winch for taking up or paying out said tensioning cable.

Claim 35 (New)

A tensioning system as in claim 23, wherein said winch is movably mounted on the crane superstructure.

Claim 36 (New and Withdrawn)

A tensioning system as in claim 34, wherein said winches are movably mounted on the crane superstructure.

Claim 37 (New)

The tensioning system as set forth in claim 17, wherein the tensioning devices are connected to counterweights of the crane.

Claim 38 (New)

The tensioning system as set forth in claim 17 wherein the tensioning devices are attached to the crane superstructure via damping units.